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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Intelligence Information Cable

82a • ROUTINE  
EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs  
(C)

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs

COUNTRY HONDURAS (C)

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: AUG 2001

DATE OF  
INFO.

DISTR. 19 JANUARY 1964

SUBJECT

CONTINUED PLOTTING WITHIN THE MILITARY AND LIBERAL  
PARTY AGAINST THE PRESENT MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF  
HONDURAS

EO 12958

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PLACE &  
DATE ACQ.

REF

IN 01455

SOURCE

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AND  
APPRAISAL:

1. A MEETING OF DISSIDENT LIBERAL PARTY MEMBERS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TOOK PLACE ON 17 JANUARY 1964 FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF EXPELLING CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE GROUP FOR NOT SUPPORTING  
THE GROUP'S POLICY OF OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT AND DISCUSSING  
THE CURRENT ANTI-GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE HELD BY SOME OFFICERS IN THE  
ARMED FORCES. THREE UNIDENTIFIED MEMBERS [REDACTED] WERE  
EXPELLED IN ABSENCE FOR NOT SUPPORTING THE GROUP'S POSITION OF ALLIANCE  
WITH DISSIDENT MILITARY COMMANDERS FOR THE REMOVAL OF OSWALDO LOPEZ,  
CHIEF OF STATE, AND RICARDO ZUNIGA, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE  
PRESIDENCIA FROM THE GOVERNMENT. NONE OF THE THREE HAVE MUCH INFLUENCE

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

EXO

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WITH THE RANK AND FILE OF THE PARTY. THE GROUP THEN DISCUSSED THE  
CURRENT COUNTER REVOLUTION ATTITUDE OF SOME OF THE MILITARY COMMANDERS.

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[REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] CERTAIN MILITARY COMMANDERS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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MET TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR ACTION AGAINST THE  
LOPEZ/ZUNIGA-RUN GOVERNMENT AND TO DISCUSS WHAT SUPPORT THEY MIGHT  
COUNT ON FROM THE GROUP OF OFFICERS WHO WILL BE REINSTATED IN THE  
MILITARY

[REDACTED]

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3.

THE DISSIDENT MILITARY ELEMENTS WISH THE MOVE AGAINST LOPEZ TO REMAIN AS APOLITICAL AS POSSIBLE AND THAT THE MILITARY ONLY WILL MOVE AGAINST LOPEZ WHEN THEY CAN BE ASSURED THAT THE MAJOR COMPONENTS OF THE ARMY ARE WITH THEM. THE MOST STRATEGIC COMPONENT, THE FIRST BATTALION UNDER THE COMMAND OF MAJOR JUAN ALBERTO MELGAR, WHO IS A LOYAL LOPEZ MAN, WILL HAVE TO BE NEUTRALIZED BEFORE SUCH A MOVE IS TAKEN.

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4.

THE DISSIDENT MILITARY

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LEADERS REQUESTED THE REMOVAL OF MARIO RIVERA, SUB-MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, INSTEAD OF DISMISSING RIVERA, LOPEZ HAS ALLOWED RIVERA TO ASSUME CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY SINCE THE RESIGNATION OF DARIO MONTES AND DOES NOT PLAN IMMEDIATELY TO REPLACE MONTES. THE DISSIDENT MILITARY LEADERS CONSIDER THIS TO BE A DIRECT REFUSAL ON THE PART OF LOPEZ TO COMPROMISE, WHICH FURTHER WIDENS THE EXISTING BREACH BETWEEN THEM.

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5. /DISSEM: STATE ARMY CINCLANT CINCSO.

END OF MESSAGE

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